

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

No claims have been added, amended, or canceled. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

Applicant appreciates the indication of the allowance of claims 15-41 and the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 2-12 and 14.

In the Office Action, Claims 1 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kalina. Claim 1 recites that a steam turbine plant comprises, *inter alia*, a steam generator, a plurality of low pressure turbines being driven by steam from the steam generator, a plurality of steam condensers to condense the steam from the low pressure turbines into condensed water, a feedwater line which supplies the condensed water to the steam generator as feedwater, the feedwater line including a plurality of feedwater heating lines connected in parallel, a number of feedwater heating lines being less than a number of steam condensers, and a plurality of low pressure feedwater heaters.

As shown in Fig. 5 of Kalina, main evaporators 12.5 and 13.5 provide steam to turbines 16.5 and 17.5, respectively. The outputs from turbines 16.5 and 17.5 lead to absorption state 20.5. Only the output from turbine 16.5 passes through preheater 82.5. A pump 29.5 provides a liquid stream to the preheater 82.5 that flows in heat exchange relationship with the spent working fluid output from the turbine 16.5 (see col. 15, lines 36-44).

In contrast to claim 1, Kalina fails to disclose or suggest a feedwater line which supplies the condensed water to the steam generator as feedwater, the feedwater line including a plurality of feedwater heating lines connected in parallel. Rather, as shown in Fig. 5, only one feedwater heating line, i.e., the line fed from pump 29 through preheater 82.5 is fed to evaporator 13.5. The line output from the turbine 16.5 is not a feedwater heating line and is not fed to a steam generator.

Kalina also fails to disclose or suggest a plurality of steam condensers to condense the steam from the low pressure turbines into condensed water and a plurality of low pressure feedwater heaters, as recited in claim 1. Rather, as shown in Fig. 5, Kalina discloses only one steam condenser, absorption state 20.5, and only one feedwater heater, preheater 82.5. Accordingly, for all of these reasons, claim 1 is patentably distinguishable from Kalina. Claim 13 is also patentably distinguishable from Kalina by virtue of its dependence from claim 1, as well as its additional recitations.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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